

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLAS STATE 122862

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MILI, CA

SUBJECT: OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY VICINITY OF CANADA O

1. IN ORDER TO SATISFY MILITARY RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS, THE U.S. NAVY DESIRES TO CONDUCT OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH SURVEYS OFF THE COAST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA DURING JULY AND AUGUST 1977. THE USNS DE STEIGUER WOULD CIRCUMNAVIGATE VANCOUVER ISLAND, DEPARTING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, ABOUT JULY 23 RETURNING THERE ABOUT AUGUST 5.

2. USNS DE STEIGUER (T-AGOR 12) IS AN OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH SHIP OPERATED BY THE MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND UNDER THE TECHNICAL DIRECTION OF THE NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE. DE STEIGUER IS AN UNARMED, WHITE-HULLED SHIP WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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A CIVIL SERVICE CREW AND IS FITTED WITH INSTRUMENTATION FOR MEASUREMENT OF SOUND TRANSMISSION IN WATER AND PROFILING OF THE OCEAN FLOOR. A TEN PERSON SCIENTIFIC PARTY, REPRESENTING THE APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY (APL) OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WILL COLLECT DATA TO STUDY FISH SCHOOLS AND BOTTOM FEATURES TO ASSESS TORPEDO FALSE TARGET PROBLEMS. DATA COLLECTED WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED AND WILL BE

MADE AVAILABLE FROM THE APL, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.
ONBOARD ACCOMMODATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR TWO CANADIAN
SCIENTISTS OR OBSERVERS, IF DESIRED.

3. THE PROPOSED TRACK INCLUDES STOPS AT GOOSE ISLAND
BANK (A 40-MILE RADIUS ABOUT 51 DEGREES 36' NORTH, 129
DEGREES WEST) FROM 25-29 JULY AND AT LA PEROUSE BANK (A
30-MILE RADIUS ABOUT 48 DEGREES 42' NORTH, 125 DEGREES
48' WEST) FROM 31 JULY-3 AUGUST. DUE TO THE NECESSITY
FOR SEEKING OUT FISH SCHOOLS DEPENDING ON CURRENT FISH-
ERIES DATA, OPEN OCEAN TRACKS MAY SHIFT BY AS MUCH AS
FIFTY MILES AND ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE TIMES REMAIN SUBJECT TO
MODIFICATION.

4. REQUEST THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA BE APPROACHED
WITH THIS PROPOSAL AND THAT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE BE
REQUESTED FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST 1977.

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